

## CITY ASKS CUSTOMERS TO REDUCE WATER USE BY TEN PERCENT

NEWPORT BEACH, Ca. – On September 23, 2008 the Newport Beach City Council and Utilities Director, Steve Myrter proclaimed a city-wide voluntary ten percent (10%) water use reduction. Cutbacks in water usage are essential in an effort to avoid mandatory consumption limits and rationing later this year and next.

Following two straight years of below-average rainfall, very low snowmelt runoff and the largest court-ordered water transfer restriction in state history, the need to conserve water in and around our homes is crucial to the sustainability of water delivery. "As the new year unfolds, we expect Metropolitan Water District will announce tougher requirements that will go beyond simple voluntary measures," Myrter said.

The City of Newport Beach will be launching a campaign to educate customers of the need to conserve water. "Water conservation is a statewide issue that affects each person in our city. With effort from everyone, a big difference can be made. If each customer makes one modification in their water use, we can save thousands of gallons of water this summer," said Water Conservation Coordinator, Shane Burckle. "In addition to conservation, it will save money during these slow economic times."

City officials highly encourage customers to cut back on the amount of water used. Practical ways to conserve water is by covering pools and spas to slow evaporation; use brooms to clean outside areas instead of spraying them down; irrigate lawns no more than three times a week in the summer and consider purchasing a weather based irrigation controller.

We can be an example to our children in reducing indoor use by turning off the water when brushing our teeth, shorten showers by one or two minutes and fix or replace leaky faucets and toilets. For more ideas on how to conserve ten percent and see available rebates go to the <u>rebates</u> section of this site.

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